



This monthly newsletter contains information on meetings, conferences, trainings, available grants and loans, relevant Web sites, employment opportunities and miscellaneous information. Input and feedback are appreciated. For more information, contact M. Castain (415) 972-3264; email castain.maria@epa.gov or visit Web site: http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/newslet.html

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9, San Francisco, California

March 2006

Tribal Program Newsletter

Meetings and Conferences



Mar 23-24 Natives Impacted by Mining, Reno, NV



May 16-19 Tribal Drinking Water Conference, Reno, NV

These conferences are sponsored by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and U.S. EPA Region 9. For more information, contact Lela G. Christensen, (775) 574.1000 ext. 245 or email lgleyva@plpt.nsn.us or to go <http://www.plpt.nsn.us>

Mar 26-29 21st International Conference on Solid Waste, Philadelphia, PA

Researchers, educators, government officials, students, consultants, managers, and community leaders with expertise in solid waste are invited to submit papers for oral presentation at this conference. For more information, please write or call Dr. Ronald L. Mersky, Conference Chair, Department of Civil Engineering, Widener University, 1 University Place, Chester, PA 19013-5792 U.S.A (610) 499 4042 4461, solid.waste@widener.edu.

Apr 11-13 Regional Tribal Operating Committee (RTOC) Meeting, San Francisco, CA

Contact Lilia Dignan (415) 972-3779 or email Dignan.lilia@epa.gov

May 1-4 National Tribal Environment Council Conference, Temecula, CA

For more information visit: <http://www.ntec.org> or contact David Conrad at dconrad@ntec.org

May 7-11 National Monitoring Conference: Connecting for Clean Water, San Jose, CA

This 5th conference is hosted by the National Water Quality Monitoring Council and will highlight how various networks – including monitoring designs, information exchanges, and the Internet – connect all of us working for clean water. EPA and USGS are members of this council. This conference will provide an expanded national forum for volunteer monitoring program coordinators to exchange information, develop skills, and build better networks. If you have questions about the conference or would like to be placed on a mailing list, contact the 2006 Monitoring Conference Coordinator at (410) 356-8993, email at NWQMC2006@tetratex-ffx.com or visit their Web site at <http://www.nwqmc.org>.

May 8-12 National Environmental Partnership Summit, Atlanta, GA

Region 4 will host this summit. This year's theme is about learning and creating opportunities for environmental stewardship - *Stewardship in Action: Our Responsibility, Our Environment*. The sponsors particularly would like to expand the participation of other groups and organizations that have not actively participated in previous summits. Information on this summit can be found at Web site: <http://www.environmentalsummit.org/>

May 9-11 Energy Efficiency in Tribal Community, Denver, CO

The Council of Energy Resource Tribes is coordinating with federal, state, industry and tribal entities to hold a national conference on energy efficiency and weatherization with a focus on tribal communities. For more information, contact CERT at (303) 282-7576 or visit: <http://www.certreearth.com/events.php>



May 22-25 Annual National Conference of the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society, Bar Harbor, ME

This year's conference theme is *"Embrace Our Ancestor's Conservation Stewardship for Future Generations to Respect and Enjoy"*. Visit the Society's Web site (<http://www.nafws.org>) for a copy of the agenda, a pre-registration form, etc.



Jun 7-9 Climate Change and the Future of the American West: Exploring the Law and Policy Dimensions, Princeton University

The Natural Resources Law Center's 2006 summer conference will explore a wide range of issues from climate science, to the impacts of climate change on water resources and ecological systems. If you would like additional information about the conference, please contact the Center at nrlc@colorado.edu. This announcement along with additional information about the conference, as it becomes available, is posted at <http://www.colorado.edu/law/centers/nrlc/summerconference/>.

May 16-18 Tribal Drinking Water Training Conference II, Reno, NV

For more information on this conference go to: <http://www.plpt.nsn.us/conference/>



Jun 12-14 3rd Annual Navajo Nation Drinking Water Conference, Window Rock, AZ

The Public Water Systems Supervision Program will host this conference. For more information contact Valerie Spencer or Michelle K. Silver (928) 871-7755 or visit <http://www.navajopublicwater.org>

Aug 1-3 Regional Tribal Operating Committee (RTOC) Meeting, Elko, NV

Oct 30-31 Regional Tribal Operating Committee Meeting, San Francisco, CA

Contact Lilia Dignan (415) 972-3779 or email Dignan.lilia@epa.gov

Nov. 1-3 14th Annual Tribal Conference, San Francisco, CA

For more information, contact Hillary Hecht at (415) 972-3790 or email Hecht.hillary@epa.gov. Additional details will be sent as they become available

Training

Mar 22-23 Environmental Political, Cultural, Economic, and other Implications of Energy Development in Indian Country, Denver, CO

For more information on this workshop, call Merv Tano at (303) 733-0481 or e-mail: mervtano@iirm.org



Mar 23 Illegal Dumping Prevention Workshop, Ridgecrest, CA

The workshop is free but participants must pre-register on-line. For more information about the workshop, on-line registration, and a draft agenda, please visit <http://www.dmg.gov/workshops/idewsindex.php> or contact Russell Scofield, 760-365-0955.

Mar 29-31 General Assistance Program (GAP) Workshop, San Francisco, CA

This is a three-day workshop intended for new Region 9 environmental directors and/or technicians who work under the GAP Grant. Tribal council members and tribal finance personnel are also encouraged to attend. This workshop will cover topics such as GAP requirements, work plans, budgets, grants administration and Performance Partnership Grants (PPG's). The class size will be limited to 60 participants. For more information or to register for the workshop please contact Tim Grant (415) 972-3783 or e-mail grant.timothy@epa.gov.

Apr 19-20 2006 New York State Wetlands Forum Annual Conference, Syracuse, NY

For more information, contact Denise Lewis (518) 783-1322, e-mail info@wetlands.org or visit Web Site: <http://www.wetlandsforum.org>

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Mar 13-17 Emergency Management Framework for Tribal Governments, Washington, D.C.

This course provides tribal leaders and representatives with a basic understanding of emergency management principles and their roles in leading and directing their tribes in developing and implementing comprehensive emergency management systems. The course is free and lodging will be provided. A roundtrip flight from home to Baltimore/Washington, Dulles, or Washington National is reimbursable and transportation between airports and the campus will be provided. The only expense would be a one-week meal ticket, which is \$90. If you are interested, contact for Linda Straka (301-447-1162; Linda.Straka@dhs.gov).

Apr 10-13 Mitigation for Tribal Officials, Emmetsburg, MD.

This course provides a 1-week overview of FEMA's mitigation programs. Students should have some familiarity with FEMA, in terms of its overall programs. Starting May 2005, states or tribes that don't have an approved mitigation plan are not eligible for certain kinds of FEMA assistance after a disaster.

Tribes can either work through the county in which their tribe is located or develop their own state-level mitigation plan (in some states, like California, tribes cannot go through the county or state and must develop their own state-level plan). The contact for this class is Dawn Warehime (301-447-1309; Dawn.Warehime@dhs.gov).



Apr 19-21 Solid Waste Enforcement Training, Morongo, CA

EPA Region 9 has engaged the National Indian Justice Center (NIJC) to develop and deliver a 2 ½ day training session on Solid Waste Management in Indian Country: Issues & Strategies. The focus on the session will be on current and critical issues like illegal dumping, the development and enforcement of tribal codes, jurisdictional conflicts, RCRA issues and other updates on solid waste management. For further information about the training program and to register call Joe Myers at 1-800-966-0662.

Nielson Environmental Field School

Courses are specifically designed to meet the training needs of environmental consultants, contractors and laboratory staff, government agency environmental staff, federal, state, regional, county, city, tribal, industry environmental staff: petrochemical, utility, landfill, manufacturing, mining and others. For more information, contact us at info@envirofieldschool.com or visit the following Web site: <http://www.envirofieldschool.com>

California Indian Health Services

Apr 25-27 Water Disinfection and Fluoridation for Small Water Systems, Phoenix, AZ

This course provides maintenance personnel with necessary skills and knowledge to effectively disinfect and fluoridate small community water supplies. Lessons include an overview of EPA regulations, chemical safety, treatment processes, field analysis, and dosage calculations. Hands-on exercises will emphasize maintenance and trouble-shooting of chemical feed pumps. To register online go to <http://www.opheng.ihs.gov> and fill-out the nomination request form. If you have questions, call David E. Robbins (760) 735-6891

Apr 11-13 Distribution Certification Exam Preparation Class, Sacramento, CA

Apr 18-20 Distribution Certification Exam Preparation Class, Sacramento, CA

May 15-18 Training for Water Treatment Exam, Ukiah, CA

To register for the training, or to get more detail, please contact Mary Weber weber.mary@ihs.gov or call (707) 462-5314, ext. 105. There is no registration fee for the course and some travel expenses may be reimbursable.

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals at North Arizona University (ITEP/NAU)

Mar 13-17 Management of Tribal Air Programs and Grants (Level 2), Reno, NV

Mar 14-17 Air Quality in Alaska, Anchorage, AK

Mar 27-31 Air Quality Computations (Level 1), Flagstaff, AZ

Apr 18-21 Environmental Radiation Monitoring for Tribes (Level 1), Las Vegas, NV

As with most ITEP courses, ITEP will pay for participants' travel and lodging as well as reimburse them for their per diem expenses. For more information, please contact Todd Barnell, (928) 523-3840 (phone); (928) 523-1266 (fax) or <http://www.nau.edu/itep>

Radon Training Courses

Mar 10-11 Measurement, Colorado Springs, CO

This course will satisfy the requirement for certification with either the National Environmental Health Association's Radon Proficiency Program (NEHA-NRPP) or the National Radon Safety Board (NRSB) and any states with certification programs. It will also be necessary to pass an exam, which will be offered at the end the course. For more information, contact the University of Colorado 1 (877) 723-6607.

Resource Training Institute



Mar 28-30 Stack Testing and Data Analysis, Atlanta, GA

This three-day workshop will cover a variety of topics associated with observing trial burns, verifying calculation of trial burn emission data, and validating trial burn analytical data and discussing various sampling methods. For more information or a complete schedule of their training, please call (706) 951-5685 or visit <http://www.RTII.org>

Bill Helmich Associates Training Seminars

A brochure for training seminars for January – March 2006 is available from Bill Helmich Associates, P. O. Box 789, Sandia Park, NM 87047 (505) 281-9884 or visit: <http://www.billhelmichassociates.com>

National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI)

NETI courses are for federal, state, local and tribal environmental personnel, including attorneys, inspectors, technical staff and investigators. All courses are free. Distance learning products, such as CD-ROMs or videotapes are mailed to students at no cost; classroom courses are free—the student only pays travel costs. Courses fill up early, so check their Web site for specific information <http://www.netionline.com>. Click on the NETI Course Catalog and Schedule button, and find the courses which are of interest. To request a printed Catalog, please call (202) 564-2430. For general information about NETI, contact Zena Aldridge at Aldridge.zeno@epa.gov or (740) 773-4039.



Apr 24-28 Superfund Academy 101, Philadelphia, PA.

This week-long course will be held in Region 3 and will combine "Fundamentals of Superfund" and "Enforcement Process". Details are available at the following Web site <http://www.trainex.org>

July 11-14 CST 109 Basic Inspector Course, San Francisco, CA

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NEPA courses provide information and skills necessary to prepare and review environmental assessments and environmental impact statements as mandated by NEPA and EPA's review and comment mandate under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. The courses are open to newcomers to the NEPA program, associate NEPA reviewers, environmental reviewers from other federal agencies and as a refresher course for more experienced staff. If you have any questions, call Arthur Totten (202) 564-7164; fax: (202) 564-0072; email: totten.arthur@epa.gov

Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA)

Feb 27-28 Tribal Water Operator Certification Program, Phoenix, AZ

This course was developed to meet the needs of the operator working on American Indian lands and to provide an alternative to state certification programs.

Mar 20-24 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and Water Sampling, Indio, CA

This course will provide hands-on experience in SDWA compliance sampling and microscopic examination of potential problem organisms.

Mar 27-31 Water Distribution - Level Two, Phoenix, AZ and Fort McDowell, AZ

This course prepares qualified Level One Certified Operators for the Level Two examination in water distribution. Operators should be certified as Level One for one year before taking this course.

Mar 29-30 Water Treatment- Level One, Temple, AZ.

This course covers information to prepare the participant for the Level One in Water Treatment. Topics include groundwater, wells, water disinfection, water softening and the SDWA.

To obtain more information on ITCA courses or to obtain an electronic version of their calendar, call Deborah Patton at (602) 258-4822

Grants and Loans

Financial Opportunities from the Western Regional Office, Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)

EERE financial opportunities for tribes are managed by the Golden Field Office and detailed on the Tribal Energy Program Web site. This program provides financial and technical assistance to tribes for feasibility studies and shares the cost of implementing sustainable renewable energy installations on tribal lands. Relevant financial solicitations can be found on the funding opportunities page. All of these Web sites are on: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/financing/>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



Community-Based Partnerships

EPA announced that funds are available to support community-based partnerships to reduce toxic risks in local communities. EPA will award about \$2.7 million in cooperative agreements in two levels through the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. Level I cooperative agreements will help establish community-based partnerships and set priorities for reducing toxic risks in a community. EPA anticipates awarding eight to ten cooperative agreements under Level I, ranging from \$75,000 to \$100,000. Level II cooperative agreements are for communities that already have a broad-based collaborative partnership, have identified risk reduction priorities and are ready to implement risk reduction strategies. EPA expects to award six to eight cooperative agreements, ranging from \$150,000 to \$300,000. A range of community groups may apply for funding, including county and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations and universities. The CARE program helps to build broad-based local partnerships for reducing risks from toxic pollutants that come from numerous sources. For additional information about CARE, projects awarded in 2005, or how to apply for the cooperative agreements, visit EPA's Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/care>. or contact Roxanne Smith, (202) 564-4355 smith.roxanne@epa.gov



FY 2006 Tribal Solid Waste Management Assistance Project

This notice announces the availability of funds and solicits applications from eligible entities for the Tribal Solid Waste Management Assistance Project (previously called the Open Dump Cleanup Project). The project helps close or clean up high-threat open dumps, develop alternative disposal options, and establish integrated solid waste management and enforcement programs. Eligible entities may apply for funding under one of four categories: (1) proposals to develop integrated solid waste management plans and tribal codes and regulations; (2) proposals to characterize/assess open dumps; (3) proposals to develop and implement alternative solid waste management activities/facilities (including equipment acquisition); and, (4) proposals to develop and implement cleanup, closure, and post-closure programs for open dump waste sites in Indian Country. The announcement is available for downloading at <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm> ; the closing date is April 3, 2006. For more information, please call Caleb Shaffer (shaffer.caleb@epa.gov or 415-972-3336) or Heather White (white.heather@epa.gov or 415-972-3384).



EPA Region 9 Resource Conservation Funds (RCF) Solicitation

Region 9 is soliciting proposals to fund cooperative agreements and grants that address solid waste reduction and management. Funds will be awarded pursuant to Section 8001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), 42 U.S.C. §6981. Funds will be awarded to applicants carrying out projects geographically located in EPA Region 9. Projects may include studies, surveys, investigations, demonstrations, training, and public education programs. This solicitation describes the program goals and gives general information on the application and selection process, proposal format, and evaluation criteria. Please note areas of project emphasis, as well as additional information and eligible activities for tribes and tribal organizations in EPA Region 9. Additional information for tribes can be found in Section IX of the full text announcement: <http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/rcra.html>. For more information, contact Caleb Shaffer (shaffer.caleb@epa.gov or 415-972-3336) or Heather White (white.heather@epa.gov or 415-972-3384). Initial proposals must be postmarked or submitted to <http://www.grants.gov> by March 27, 2006.

Tribal Water Council

EPA requests applications to establish a national Tribal Water Program Council (TWPC). The TWPC will work to raise awareness on water related issues pertaining to the health of tribal communities and the quality of tribal aquatic resources and watersheds. \$800K is expected to be available, 1 award is anticipated, and responses are due March 10, 2006. Applications must be received no later than 4 p.m. EST, March 10, 2006. For more information, visit the following Web site:

http://www.epa.gov/water/funding.html#twpc_rfc or contact Karen Rudek at (202) 564-0472 or go to:



EPA Region 9's Pollution Prevention (P2) Program

The P2 Program is soliciting proposals to fund projects supporting source reduction/pollution prevention activities focusing on promotion of green building for residential construction and reduction of priority chemicals. Funding will be in the form of grants or cooperative agreements, depending on the nature of the project. EPA Region 9 expects to have approximately \$175,000 available in fiscal year 2006 to fund source reduction/pollution prevention projects. Approximately 2 to 5 awards will be awarded under this announcement, ranging in size from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Awards will not be issued for more than \$100,000. For more information, contact: Jessica Counts, (415) 972-3288 or John Katz (415) 972-3283 counts.jessica@epa.gov or katz.john@epa.gov or go to: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/p2-sourcesup06.html>

EPA Region 9 Water Infrastructure Loans available to Tribes

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loans are innovative methods of financing a range of water quality and safe drinking water projects. Under the CWSRF & DWSRF programs, EPA Region 9 provides grants or "seed money" to the states of Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada to capitalize individual state CWSRF and DWSRF loan funds. The states, in turn, make loans to communities, and individuals, for high-priority water quality and drinking water activities. Tribes are also eligible to receive CWSRF and DWSRF loans from the states. The programs are managed by the states, and loans or other types of assistance for water quality and drinking water projects are distributed according to each state's program and priorities. Eligible projects under the DWSRF include installation and replacement of failing treatment facilities, eligible storage facilities and transmission and distribution systems. Projects to consolidate water supplies may also be eligible. CWSRF loans are used to build or improve wastewater treatment plants, to develop or implement estuary improvement projects, and to implement nonpoint source pollution control activities. For more state specific information about the CWSRF and DWSRF programs, visit the U.S. EPA, Region 9 Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water>

Indian Country Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Multi-Year Cleanup Initiative

EPA Region 9 recently announced the Indian Country LUST multi-year cleanup initiative. Using LUST trust funds, EPA will pay for site assessments and cleanups on LUST sites on tribal lands. EPA has contracted a Native Alaskan-owned firm, Bristol Environmental, to assist with the work. EPA has identified more than 200 LUST sites on the lands of 17 different tribes. Further sites may be identified as the work progresses. For more information, please contact Carl Warren, UST Program Office, at (415) 972-3355 or email to: warren.carl@epa.gov

UST Tribal Strategy

Region 9 tribes are participating in a national EPA effort to develop an Underground Storage Tanks Tribal Strategy. The strategy will address inventory and prioritization, compliance and enforcement, corrective action and funding issues. A draft of the strategy is expected in March 2006. Workgroups have been formed and tribal environmental representatives are encouraged to join the effort. Please contact Wenona Wilson at wilson.wenona@epa.gov or (415) 972-3239 for more information.

Environmental Education Grants Program (EEGP)

EPA requests proposals for EEGP. This program supports environmental education projects that promote environmental stewardship and help develop aware and responsible students, teachers, and citizens. \$3 million is expected to be available and 150 awards are anticipated. For more information, contact Diane Berger at (202) 564-0451 or go to: http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants_sol2006.html.

Agricultural Initiative in Region 9

EPA requests proposals for the Strategic Agricultural Initiative/Food Quality Protection Act Grant Program. This program supports projects that will assist the agricultural community to transition away from high-risk pesticides to lower risk pesticides and sustainable practices in food production. Project must occur within EPA Region 9 tribal nations. \$390K is expected to be available, and up to 6 awards are anticipated. Responses are due March 3, 2006. For more information, contact Don Hodge at hodge.don@epa.gov or go to: <http://www.fedgrants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=2295>.

California/ Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) Grants to Communities for Environmental Justice Projects

Cal/EPA Secretary Alan C. Lloyd announced the selection of 17 organizations for EJ grant funding. The Cal/EPA EJ Small Grants Program provides \$280,000 to eligible community-based non-profit groups, including seven tribal governments, to support environmental justice related projects in California.

A panel of experts within the boards, departments and offices of Cal/EPA selected recipients based on a competitive evaluation process. Grant funds will be used to support a variety of environmental and public health objectives, including education, in-home health care, water quality projects, and scientific research.

Community-based organizations receiving grant funds include the Asian Pacific Environmental Network in Oakland, Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment in Delano, and Union de Residentes por la Proteccion del Ambiente in Valencia. A complete list of grant recipients is available on the Cal/EPA Web site at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EnvJustice/Funding>

Tribal Solid Waste Management Assistance Project

Proposals for the Tribal Solid Waste Management Assistance Project, formerly known as the Interagency Tribal Open Dump Cleanup Project, are expected to be due in mid-March. Several different federal agencies provide funding to this program, including BIA, IHS, and EPA. Eligible projects include developing solid waste management plans, alternative infrastructure, or closing or assessing dumps. Please check the Web site for the solicitation and the exact due date at <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm> or contact Caleb Shaffer at shaffer.caleb@epa.gov or (415) 972-3336.

American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO)

AIEO is committing funds to encourage the use of Direct Implementation Tribal Cooperative Agreements (DITCAs) and to demonstrate their value to EPA's mission. Contingent on future appropriations, AIEO is providing up to \$200,000 each year for the next three years in matching funds for eligible DITCAs. The funding is to be used as a match with other EPA funding in accordance with DITCA Guidance, 70 Fed Reg 5 1440 (2004). Headquarters and regional proposals are due to AIEO by April 1. Funding decisions will be made by April 30. Offices are encouraged to work with AIEO prior to submittal date. For more information, call Jose Aguto (202) 564-0289 or Rodges Ankhar (202) 564-2080.



Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)

Region 10 requests proposals for IAQ. Projects should address any of five priority areas including but not limited to the IAQ Tools for Schools program and general IAQ training, education, and outreach. Projects must be performed in AK, ID, OR and/or WA. \$170K expected is to be available, and up to 4 awards are anticipated. Responses are due March 24, 2006. For more information, contact Susan Titus at

Titus.Susan@epa.gov or go to:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/AIRPAGE.NSF/webpage/Indoor+Air+Grants+Request+for+Proposals+in+EPA+Region+10>



Watershed Funding

Plan2Fund™ is a Watershed Planning Tool developed by the Environmental Finance Center at Boise State University that helps organizations determine their funding needs to meet the goals and objectives of their Watershed Program Plan. This tool walks users through estimating the costs of their Watershed Program Plan's Goals and Objective, assessing any local matches, and determining funding needs to meet Goals and Objectives. To download this tool, go to: <http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc/> or call toll free (866) 627-9847 to receive a free copy by mail.

Smart Growth Implementation Assistance

The Development, Community and Environment Division in U.S. EPA's Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation is seeking applications from communities that want to develop ways to meet environmental community goals. A team of multidisciplinary experts will provide technical assistance to communities that are selected. For more information and application materials call Mary Kay (Santore) Bailey, (202) 566-2859 or go to: http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg_implementation.html

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)



Tribes are eligible recipients of the federal DHS Assistance to Firefighter Grants. The 2006 grant application period will probably begin in early March. Workshops will be held in the next few weeks across CA, AZ, and NV. If you are interested in attending one of these workshops, check out the workshop schedule at <http://www.firegrantsupport.com> Attendance at the workshops are for informational purposes only. If you cannot attend a workshop but are interested in applying for the grant, you can check out the online tutorial. If you have any questions about the Assistance to Firefighters Grant, please contact Doug Woods or Rose Johnson at (510) 627-7208.



Environmental Stewardship

Entergy is accepting applications for the 2006 Environmental Stewardship Program, for community-based projects that address energy efficiency and local environmental needs. Projects must be in Entergy service areas including AR, LA, MS, MA, NH, NY, TX and VT. Up to \$250K is expected to be available and an award will range between \$5K t \$25K. Responses are due March 10, 2006. For more info, go to: http://www.entergy.com/our_community/environmental_grants.aspx .

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)

U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for the CIG. The purpose of CIG is to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies while leveraging Federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection, in conjunction with agricultural production. \$20 million is expected to be available and up to 50 awards are anticipated. Responses are due March 20, 2006. For more information, contact Kari Cohen at (202) 720-2335 or go to: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig> .

Environmental Education

Melinda Gray Ardia Environmental Foundation is accepting applications for the development and implementation of holistic environmental curricula that incorporates basic ecological principles and field environmental activities within a primary or secondary school setting. Individual grants NTE \$1K. Responses are due April 6, 2006. For more information, go to: <http://www.mgaef.org/index.html> .

Integrated Waste Management Board

The Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Programs provide funding from the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) for cleanup of illegal solid waste sites on farm or ranch property. Grants are limited to \$50,000 per cleanup or abatement project with a limit of \$200,000 per year for each eligible applicant. Only cities, counties, resource conservation districts and Native American tribes may apply. There are no specific filing dates; grant applications are accepted continuously and reviewed on a quarterly basis. General information and an application package are available on Web site: <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov> or by calling (916) 341-6316

Indian Health Service (IHS) Web-based Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS)

IHS selects tribal drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste construction projects for funding every year from their SDS list. This list is accessible on the Internet at <https://wstars.ihs.gov> through a Public Login. To review a list of tribal projects on the SDS list, including their relative ranking, select an IHS Area and run a report of the SDS one-line listing. If you know of a tribal infrastructure need that should be included on the SDS list, but is not, contact your local IHS Office of Environmental Health to learn how the list is updated for your tribe.

Housing and Community Development in California

Grants are available to cities and counties to fund housing and community development activities. Applicants that do not receive Community Development Block Grant Program funds directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are eligible. Eligible activities include new construction and rehabilitation of housing, community facilities, infrastructures, and public services. A set-aside allocation of funds is awarded to projects serving Native Americans who do not belong to a federally recognized Indian tribe or Rancheria. Another set-aside of funds is awarded to non-entitlement communities (colonias) located within 150 miles of the California/Mexico border. For more information, call Allen Jones (916) 319-8402 or email ajones@hcd.ca.gov

California Bay-Delta Authority Science Grants

This program seeks to invest in projects that develop new knowledge about how water use and management activities interact with and affect key aquatic species and environmental processes across spatial and temporal scales. The geographic areas of interest are the San Francisco Bay Estuary and the Bay-Delta System. To access detailed information about this opportunity, please visit: <http://www.solicitation.calwater.ca.gov> or call the Cal Water Helpline at (877) 408-9310.

California Endowment Program

The California Endowment is pleased to offer a new Grant Application Guide for prospective applicants. Several changes have been made in application procedures to better focus resources to make lasting improvements in the health of Californians. In conjunction with the launch, The Endowment is also hosting a series of information sessions throughout the state. For more information, please go to <http://www.calendow.org> or call (800) 449-4149.

Funding Sources for Communities

A grants list of the updated version to the Funding Sources for Communities matrix can be viewed by going to the following Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/index.html>
For more information, call Jessica Counts (415) 972-3288.

Employment Opportunities



The Zuni Tribe has an Environmental Protection Specialist opening in the Division of Natural Resources. The person who fills this position will be responsible for researching Zuni, federal and state environmental policies, codes and regulations as they pertain to the concerns of the Pueblo of Zuni. For a job application or to find out more information, please contact the Zuni Tribe, Human Resources Office, P.O. Box 339, Zuni, NM 87327, (505) 782-7085

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is actively seeking an Environmental Manager to join their very diverse and dynamic organization. The Environmental Manager directs, supervises and coordinates the monitoring and protecting of the land, air and water resources for the Tribe in light of its economic, cultural and political objectives. He/she oversees the administration of EPA grant funds and Tribal funds in the implementation of these objectives. Position oversees cultural resource management as well. A Master's degree in Environmental Science or related field preferred, or equivalent; five to ten years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience. For

additional information, contact Tony Mejia (909) 864-8933 or email: tmejia@sanmanuel-nsn.gov. or go to the following link:

<http://www.careerbuilder.com/JobSeeker/Companies/CompanyDetails.aspx?IPath=JRT&hhtame=SanMauell>

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC)

SRPMIC has an opening for an environmental specialist in water quality, an environmental engineer (air quality), and an environmental specialist to educate the community as well as the cultural and environmental services staff about the technical and administrative compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) standards. Please submit your resume to Ondrea S. Barber, SRPMIC – Human Resources Dept., 10,005 E. Osborn Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85256-4225 or (406) 395-4147 or email ondrea.barber@SRMPIC-nsn.gov. Applicants will be required to pass a pre-employment drug test and fingerprint/background check. Preference will be given to a qualified community member, then a qualified Native American and then other qualified candidates. Applications can be downloaded by going to the SRPMIC's Web site: <http://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/> Positions will remain open until filled.

Environment Program Coordinator, Yurok Reservation

This position is under the general guidance of the environmental director. The incumbent will manage environmental program(s) for one or more of the categorical program areas identified in the final General Work Plan of the Tribe's General Assistance grant or other funding sources as they may develop. All hiring is subject to the Yurok Tribe's Hiring Preference. Hourly rate is from \$14.75 to 21.07. For more information, please contact: Kevin McKernan, Director, Yurok Tribe Environmental Program, P. O. Box 1027, Klamath, CA 95548 (707) 482-1350 ext. 355

Miscellaneous items



Quality Assurance (QA) Project Plan Development Tool for Tribes

The CD ROM QA Project Plan Development Tool for Tribes is now available to assist tribes who are preparing a QA Plan to cover water monitoring activities. A copy of the CD will be sent to the Tribal Environmental Director for each Region 9 tribe. Training was completed in Reno during late January-early February using the CD, and additional training is being considered, but has not yet been scheduled. For more information, contact David R. Taylor (415) -972-3803 or email: Taylor.David@epa.gov

Strategic Plan

The Chief Financial Office Web site with proposed revisions to the Strategic Plan is now LIVE at: <http://www.epa.gov/ocfopage/plan/06draftarch.htm>. The Web site includes the general transmittal memo including the due date for comments of March 31. The Office of Water (OW) will create a link to this site from the OW Strategic Plan Web site, which is <http://www.epa.gov/water/waterplan>

Revisions to Ambient Air Monitoring Regulations

On January 17th, EPA proposed a new PM-2.5 standard, a new PM-coarse (PM-10 - 2.5) standard, and a revocation of the existing PM-10 standards. On the same day, EPA also proposed new particulate monitoring regulations. This information is being sent in order to provide you with the relevant information

as quickly as possible, so you have the opportunity to comment. The deadline for public comments is April 17, 2006. The link to the Federal Register notices is <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-AIR/2006/January/Day-17/>



National Incident Management System (NIMS)

The guidelines for incorporating NIMS into your Emergency Operations Plans (different from mitigation plans) and any Standardized Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been published on the NIMS website! These guidelines can be found on the NIMS Web site at <http://www.fema.gov/nims>. There are two separate documents for states/territories and local/tribal. Both are 33 pages. Also newly available is a 2-page guidance document for Incident Command System (ICS) instructors, and this can also be found on the Web site.



Toolkit for Schools to Help Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

The "3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water at Schools and Childcare Facilities Toolkit" contains materials to implement voluntary training and testing. EPA developed the toolkit in conjunction with non-government organizations and several federal agencies. For more information go to: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/schools/guidance.html>

EPA Guidelines and General Guidance

A "how-to" guide for implementing EPA's Voluntary National Guidelines for Management of Onsite and Clustered (Decentralized) Wastewater Treatment Systems is final. The guide describes a step-by-step approach for the development of a community management program for decentralized wastewater systems. It includes specific community examples, gives an overview of the elements essential for sound management of these systems, and provides links to extensive resources. For more information go to: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/owm/septic/guidelines.cfm#handbook>

Tribal Windows to the Environment

EPA American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO) announces the release of a software application, Tribal Windows to the Environment that provides information on tribes from major EPA data sources. The Web address is <http://oaspub.epa.gov/tims/twe.html>. This is a temporary site and the location may change. It has no password and is accessible to the public. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Ed Liu at (202) 564-0287.

Sustainable Earth Initiative (SEI) designated by EPA to help government entities address environmental challenges

Oakland-based nonprofit SEI has been designated by EPA as the Region 9 Local Resource Center, providing Environmental Management Systems (EMS) development and implementation assistance to governmental entities, including cities, counties and tribal governments. EMS is a well established tool to help local governments prevent pollution, operate more efficiently and improve environmental performance within their communities. SEI provides a range of services to local governments including, training, implementation assistance and coaching. SEI co-founders Gary Lucks and Susan Sakaki offer introductory and training workshops, and related implementation assistance to tribal organizations. Call

Susan Sakaki at (510) 531-5377 for information on SEI. For information on the EPA program go to <http://www.peercenter.net>. For information on SEI: go to www.sustainableearthinitiative.org

EPA Pilot Projects Make Emergency Exempted and Special Local Needs Pesticides Available In Indian Country

On November 1, 2005, the EPA Administrator authorized two findings that will allow growers in Indian country to use the same pesticides for combating pests in emergency situations as growers on neighboring land. In order to test the feasibility of this approach, the Agency is implementing two pilot projects. The first will allow growers in the Yakama Reservation and other Yakama Nation Indian country in Washington State to have access to all pesticides that are approved for use in counties geographically encompassing or contiguous to such Indian country through the emergency exemption and special local needs provisions of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act. The second pilot project will allow growers in Indian country nationwide to use emergency exempted and special local needs pesticides that are approved for use in counties geographically encompassing or contiguous to such areas of Indian country against a newly arrived pest species called Asian soybean rust, an extraordinarily destructive fungus that was first discovered in the United States in September 2004. For more information on pesticides that EPA has made available to combat soybean rust, visit <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/> or http://www.epa.gov/oppfod01/cb/csb_page/updates/soybean_rust.html or call Dan Helfgott (703) 308-8054

National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

NCEH and ATSDR are soliciting interested persons to serve as members on the Community Tribal Subcommittee (CTS) of the NCEH/ATSDR Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC). The BSC is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app.). The CTS is composed of members of NCEH/ATSDR BSC and members representing community and tribal perspectives on environmental health issues. More information on NCEH can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh>. Also, you may contact Leslie Campbell, toll-free 1-888-422-8737

Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

"Controlling and Preventing Household Mold and Moisture Problems: Lessons Learned and Strategies for Disseminating Best Practices" is a report prepared for Congress that describes current residential mold and moisture research sponsored by HUD. A housing inspection manual with related software and training materials designed for environmental health specialists and code inspectors was developed, as well as a culturally-specific asthma training program for the Native American community. This report also identifies the factors that make Native American housing more susceptible to mold and moisture problems, for which guides and training programs on mold prevention and detection have been developed, specifically for Native American audiences. A free copy of this document is available online at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/report040105.pdf> or, contact HUD USER, P. O. Box 23268 Washington, DC 20026-3268 1-(800) 245-2691 for more information.

Baseline Needs Assessment (BNA)

The BNA was prepared by the National Tribal Environmental Council and Rural Community Assistance Corporation under a grant from the EPA to the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, working in conjunction with the Region 9 Tribal Caucus and the Region 9 RTOC Drinking Water/Wastewater

Subcommittee. For complete details, visit the following Web site:
http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/bna/

Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan (SRF) Program.

The State Water Resources Control Board is inviting public comment on proposed amendments to the SRF Loan Policy. The SRF Loan Program provides low-interest loans for the construction of publicly owned wastewater treatment and water recycling facilities, correction of non-point source and storm water drainage pollution problems. The proposed amendments are intended to integrate the concept of sustainability into the SRF Policy consistent with State Water Board Resolution No. 2005-0006. The State Water Board will immediately begin accepting new applications and resume processing those applications that were previously under review. For more information, please go to:
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/water>

Air Quality Permits

EPA Region 9 encourages tribes that want to build small power plants to consult with EPA early in the planning process to determine whether an air quality permit is required. The need for a permit depends on the size of the plant, the potential emissions of the plant (without consideration of air pollution controls) and where the plant will be located. The likelihood that a permit will be required is higher in areas where the air quality is not meeting federal air quality standards, i.e. non-attainment areas. Tribes that want to construct power plants in the following California counties (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino) should be especially aware of the possibility that a permit will be required prior to construction or operation of the plant, since the permitting thresholds based on potential emissions are lower than in other areas. If a permit is required, it takes EPA between 6 to 12 months to issue a final permit after a complete application has been submitted. Since construction of a new plant cannot start until after the permit has been issued, it is important to start this process as soon as possible after it is known that a permit is required. If you have questions or need to get an applicability determination from EPA Region 9, contact Roger Kohn, kohn.roger@epa.gov or (415) 972-3973 or Gerardo Rios rios.gerardo@epa.gov or (415) 972-3974.

Composting Programs

EPA's latest Tribal Waste Journal focusing on tribal composting programs is now in print and available on EPA's Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/tribal/pdf/twj-4.pdf>. The journal highlights tribes that are making great strides in solid waste management through composting. Read about how these tribes started their composting programs to divert waste, save on waste disposal costs, and nourish land and tradition.

Criminal Investigation Division (CID)

Region 9's Criminal Investigation Division (CID) provides training to tribal governments on investigations of environmental crimes. CID can provide a short presentation on who they are and what they do, or they can provide more detailed classroom training for police officers and regulators on what to look for in environmental investigations. CID can also recommend tribal officers to a two-week training for environmental investigators at the Law Enforcement Academy in Georgia. Tribes wishing to request this training should contact Pam Overman, Tribal Program Office, at (415) 972-3781 or overman.pamela@epa.gov.

Corporation for National and Community Services

The AmeriCorp has volunteers that are available to work with tribes. For more information, please visit the following Web site: <http://www.nationalservice.org/partners/become/ Americorps.html>

Lead Hazards

The Passamaquoddy Pleasant Point Tribe of Maine has a tribal-based environmental protection Web site <http://www.tbep.net> on products that were developed to educate children and their parents on lead hazards. Please feel free to browse and download any of these products. Also look at the Lead Tracker Teachers Manual at <http://www.tbep.net/LEADTRACKER/index.htm>.

The Penobscot Indian Nation has developed a curriculum in conjunction with the University of Connecticut Continuing Education program for 3- 4th graders which encourages students to look out for lead hazards as well as steps to take to minimize exposure to lead. This product is available in English and Spanish. Please feel free to download the manual in PDF formats <http://www.tbep.net/MotherBear/index.htm>. For more information, please call (617)-918-1524 or fax (617)-918-0524.

Community Health Air Pollution Information System (CHAPIS)

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has developed an internet-based mapping tool that allows a look at a map to view sources of air pollution. This system makes information regarding air pollution emissions available in ways that are visual and easy to understand. The air pollutant emission information contained in CHAPIS is for general information. Please consult your local air district for the most recent data available for specific facilities. The CARB should be contacted regarding mobile source emissions. For more information, visit: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/chapis1/chapis1.htm>

Web sites for tribal programs and other federal programs

EPA .Region 9 'Approach to Tribal Consultation' documents are now online:

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/res.html

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/consultation-approach-signed-memo.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/consultation-approach-final.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/consultation-approach-exhibit-a.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/consultation-approach-exhibit-b.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/consultation-approach-exhibit-c.pdf

Please visit the tribal resource Web page at:

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/res.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/grants.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/solid/indianwaste.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/ow/waterplan/tribal/index.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/tribal/>